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WORLD**NICARAGUA****U.S. to deport ex-rebel
who opposed 'contra' aid**

The Reagan administration has begun deportation proceedings against a former Nicaraguan rebel leader, following a trip he made to Washington this month to urge Congress not to renew aid to U.S.-backed guerrillas fighting to overthrow Nicaragua's government.

Edgar Chamorro, a director of the rebels' Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN) until he was fired in November for criticizing the CIA, said yesterday he was told by the Immigration and Naturalization Service that his legal status had been revoked and that he was no longer eligible to remain in the United States.

INS officials confirmed that they had begun deportation proceedings but denied that politics was a motivation.

In a recent newspaper article, Mr. Chamorro wrote: "The rebels are in the hands of former national guardsmen who control the 'contra' army, stifle internal dissent and intimidate or murder those who dare oppose them. The rebels have been subject to manipulation by the Central Intelligence Agency, which has reduced it to a front organization."